DC ENTERTAINMENT™

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE®
ORIGIN OF HE-MAN

#1

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GOOD RIDDANCE, NEPHEW.
UNGH...
AND NOW, MY BIRTHRIGHT.
BY THE POWER OF GRAYSKULL...
I... HAVE... THE...

...POWER!

NO! HOW CAN IT BE?

I AM NEXT! I MUST WIELD THE POWER SWORD!

WHO... ARE... YOU?!?

BEFORE...
CRA-KOOOOM!
WHA?
CRA-KOOOOM!
WHAT IN THE NAME OF GRAYSKULL...?
MOTHER? FATHER?

FATHER? IS ALL WELL? I HEARD A NOISE...FELT SOMETHING...
YOUR GUARDS ARE GONE--
I...I'M COMING IN.
YOU... ARE SCARING ME. FATHER? MOTHER?
PLEASE--
GODS OF ETERNIA!

KRA-KOOOOM!
WHO ARE YOU? SOME...CREATION OF THE SORCERESS? A COSMIC JOKE FROM ABOVE?
NO...I... AM...
HE-MAN!
AND YOU ARE NOTHING!

NOTHING? I AM SKELETOR.
I AM THE TRUE RULER OF ETERNIA!
I AM THE CONQUEROR OF DIMENSIONS, THE BEAST OF THE BAR.
AND NOW...
I AM THE SLAYER OF HE-MAN.
NEVER!
GAAAHHHHH!

WHAT MANNER OF WITCHCRAFT--
CRRRASH
HUH?
WHERE ARE YOU, DAMN YOU?
CRRRASH
HEY!
WHAT IS GOING ON?
WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

AH, THE YOUNG WHELP MANAGED TO ESCAPE MY POWER.
WHAT--
I MEANT TO SPARE ALL OF YOU TO BE MY SLAVES, BUT...
THIS GIFT! TO TAKE THE HEAD OF PRINCE ADAM WILL BE QUITE THE PRIZE.
UNLESS...
...YOU CAN HELP ME FIND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR.
WHY WOULD I DO THAT?
TO SAVE YOUR FAMILY, BOY.
AND BECAUSE YOU'RE A COWARD.
SHOW ME THE SWORD OF KING GRAYSKULL, AND I WILL RESTORE YOUR PARENTS AND LET THEM ALL LIVE.
IF NOT...
PERHAPS I WILL WEAR YOUR SKULL AS A CROWN.

I... CLEARLY HAVE NO CHOICE.
THE WEAPON YOU SEEK...
...IS HERE.
TAKE IT AND GO.
YOU THINK ME A FOOL, CHILD?
THIS IS MERELY AN ANTIQUE, IT'S BEEN ON THIS WALL SINCE I WAS A CHI--

I'D BEEN TOLD YOU NEVER TRAINED--
I... HAVEN'T...
THEN YOU'RE A NATURAL.
OF COURSE, IT'S A SHAME...
YOU REALLY COULD USE A LESSON OR TWO.

NOW, TELL ME WHERE THE POWER SWORD IS, OR DIE LIKE THE FILTH YOUR WRETCHED EARTH MOTHER BIRTHED!
YOU ARE A MONSTER--
YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT.
THAT TAPESTRY...
IT BELONGS TO MY FAMILY, HAS HUNG HERE FOR GENERATIONS--
I KNOW, BOY.
BUT I NEVER REALLY... LOOKED AT IT.

THIS IS THE STORY. THE LEGEND OF KING GRAYSKULL. HOW HE FORGED THE POWER SWORD.
HOW HE FOUGHT OFF THE HORDES OF HORDAK AND ALL FROM THAT DECREPIT CASTLE OF HIS.
AS A BOY I THOUGHT IT A FAIRY STORY--
BUT IT'S NOT. IT'S TRUE.
AND IT HIDES MY TREASURE.

I FELT ITS POWER. I KNEW IT WAS HERE.
MY DESTINY.
I HAVE WAITED A LIFETIME FOR MY BIRTHRIGHT. THIS IS WHY I HAVE GRAYSKULL'S BLOOD IN MY VEINS.
WHY I SUFFERED HUMILIATION, PAIN--
SUCH EXCRUCIATING--
ANT. SWINE. WASTE OF FLESH.
YOU THINK YOU CAN FOOL ME?
YOUR DESTINY, PRINCE.
I... HELP...

RISE, PRINCE ADAM.
WHERE... AM I?
CASTLE GRAYSKULL?
YOU FEEL THIS PLACE IN YOUR BONES, YES.
WHERE ARE YOU?
I
AM
HERE.
I AM THE SORCERESS. I HAVE KEPT WATCH OVER CASTLE GRAYSKULL UNTIL THE DAY YOU CAME--
BUT I DIDN'T COME HERE--I WAS IN THE GREAT HALL AND SKELETOR--

YOU ARE NOT REALLY HERE, PRINCE. RATHER, YOU ARE WHERE YOU NEED TO BE.
YOUR MIND HAS JOURNEYED HERE, AND, SOON, YOUR BODY MUST DO THE SAME. BUT, FOR NOW, YOU MUST ENSURE SKELETOR DOES NOT TAKE THE POWER SWORD.
YOUR POWER SWORD.
MINE? NO. I'M NOT...
I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF THIS.
YOU HAVE NO CHOICE. THIS IS YOUR DESTINY.
WHEN KING GRAYSKULL LEFT THIS MORTAL PLANE, HE WARNED OF A WAR BETWEEN TWO OF HIS OWN BLOOD.
ONE WILL BRING DESTRUCTION, THE OTHER WILL FIGHT IT BACK.
THE END OF THIS WORLD STANDS AT THE GATE, AND ONLY YOU, PRINCE ADAM, SON OF KING RANDOR, DESCENDANT OF KING GRAYSKULL, NEPHEW OF...
PERHAPS YOU AREN'T QUITE READY FOR THAT YET.

I'M NOT READY. I...I CAN'T DO THIS.
YOUR FATHER MAY NOT HAVE KNOWN THAT THIS DAY WOULD COME, BUT, IN HIS BONES, HE WAS ALWAYS SCARED OF IT.
HE LET YOU GROW WEAK AND SCARED. HE LET YOU SPEND YOUR DAYS AND NIGHTS AS YOU PLEASED.
DESTINY IS A LESS KIND PATRIARCH.
YOU WILL AWAKEN SOON, AND THE SWORD WILL BE WITHIN YOUR REACH, AND YOU WILL SAY THE WORDS, AND YOU WILL NO LONGER BE JUST THE PRINCE.
YOU WILL BE HE-MAN. YOU WILL SAVE OUR WORLD. YOU SHALL DESTROY SKELETOR.
BECAUSE YOU *CAN.* YOU *MUST.*
AND, YOU *WILL.*

COME TO ME!

The BEGINNING
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